

Docket No.: 43890-455



PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of | : | Customer Number: 20277 |
| Naoki KOGA, et al. | : | Confirmation Number: 2159 |
| Application No.: 09/703,802 | : | Group Art Unit: 2141 |
| Filed: November 02, 2000 | : | Examiner: Khosravan, Jiman |
| For: NETWORK CONNECTION APPARATUS | : | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

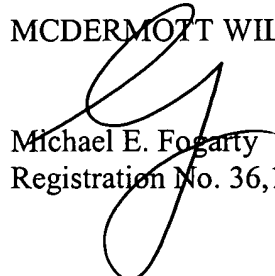
The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each non-English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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(PTO-1449)

SERIAL NO.
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November 02, 2000

GROUP
2141

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| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Foreign Patent Document Country Codes -Number + -Kind Codes (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear | Translation | |
|---------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|----|
| | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | | EP 0 483 547 A1 | 05/06/1992 | INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION | | JAPAN (w/English Abstract) | |
| | | WO 99/09488 | 02/25/1999 | MISSISSIPPI POWER COMPANY | | X | |
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| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | |
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DATE CONSIDERED

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.